WENDELL POST

Vol. 22 #4.

50¢ (cheap)

February/March 1999

SELECT BOARD UPDATE

Important Reminders about Dogs

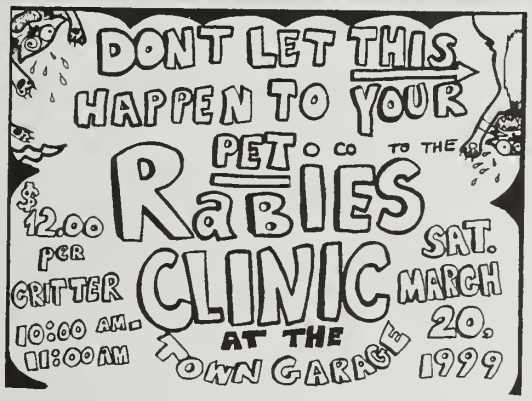
All dogs must have 1999 licenses by April 1st. Licenses may be obtained from the Town Clerk, Annie Hartjens. Annie may be reached at home, 544-6052 or at the Depot Post Office, 544-6682. The Depot Post Office is open from 7:00 to 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. on Mondays through Fridays; on Saturdays the hours are 7:00 to 11:00 a.m. Please call to be sure Annie is there. If the dog has been neutered, bring proof. This simple and inexpensive process allows any dog officer who finds your dog to easily find you, its owner.

It is a Massachusetts state law that all dogs must be restrained. Any stray dog may, by law, be destroyed. Wendell's current Dog Officer would be very reluctant to take that step. Instead the dog is kept until its owner claims it or a new home is found. In January the Select Board voted to allow the Dog Officer to charge a $10.00 pick up fee. If your dog is found wandering and then picked up by the Dog Officer, you will have to pay this $10 fee as well as a boarding charge of $3.00 per day. Please be a good neighbor as well as a responsible owner, and restrain your dogs at all times.

Town Hall Septic Advisory Committee

This summer the Town Hall Septic Advisory Committee was formed to devise solutions for the Town Hall's septic system. The current system is a tight tank, which must be emptied at considerable cost whenever it is full, about 6 times per year. The Committee is carefully inventorying Wendell Center to ascertain the scope of septic problems there. Neither the Library, the Police Department nor the Meeting House has any septic system; the system at the Town Offices is old. Committee member, Jim Slavas, is creating a computer map which will show each house, soil types, and the topography of the study area. Wells and septic systems will be added to the map.

CHRISTINE HEARD



LAKE GROVE SCHOOL PLANS MAJOR EXPANSION

by Kathy Becker

The Town of Wendell has been notified by the Mass Development Finance Agency that Lake Grove School has been granted a tax exempt bond to construct 4 new dormitories, a school building, and a gymnasium on the campus along their new internal road called Franklinia Way. Presently 39 adolescents ranging in ages from 13 to 20 make their home at the non-profit educational and therapeutic facility. Expansion plans would allow for 15 more students in the new dormitories and the re-opening of a group home at 46 Wendell Depot Road. The existing buildings on the north side of Farley Road at the intersection of Wendell Depot Road are planned to be used for office and faculty space.

As an educational facility, Lake Grove may be exempt from local zoning by-laws which may prevent local input into the school's expansion and it's potential impact on the community.

Lake Grove also has purchased the former Golding property, across from the Wendell Country Store. These buildings currently house staff.

The Wendell Planning Board and the Selectboard are currently researching law relevant to these expansion plans.

Meet Your New Select Board Members

In the past year, Wendell has elected two new members to the Select Board. Christine Heard was elected in May to replace retiring Margo Culley. Katharine Bentley was elected at a special election in November to replace Anne Zak who also retired.

Christine Heard has lived in town for over 20 years, raised 5 children here and had been on the School Committee for 9 years. She loves to read and frequents the Wendell Free Library regularly. She also loves to garden, growing vegetables, fruit and flowers in quantities large enough to share. Christine has worked as secretary at Swift River School for nearly 3 years, a job that gives her contact with Wendell and New Salem children and still allows her plenty of time to travel and visit her large family. Before Swift River, Christine worked at Amherst Pelham Regional High School, at the Music Department of UMass, at Lake Grove School and at New Salem Academy. She finds the Select Board a fascinating, new challenge. Christine is is the Select Board representative to the Town Hall Septic Advisory Committee. She especially enjoys the chance to work with townspeople she has always wanted to know better!

Katharine Bentley has lived in Wendell for 6 years. She has been employed for over 16 years by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Hadley. Although she considered herself a city slicker, she loves Wendell and has converted happily to a country mouse. Katharine, a serious gardener herself, has beautifully landscaped her home on Bowen's Pond. She is a fisherman, hunter and wildlife watcher. She has 4 grown children whom she visits frequently. Katharine is particularly interested in the Route 2 issue and is Wendell's representative to the Route 2 Task Force. She wants to uphold the position that the Wendell Select Board and townspeople have developed. She has found that being a Select Board member is a wonderful way to meet people and participate in the workings of a small, close-knit community.

by Christine Heard

WENDELL POST

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POST ARTICLE INSTRUCTIONS

Please send submissions to Wendell Post, P.O. Box 113, Wendell, MA 01379

All articles and letters submitted to the Post for publication need to be signed. If you have a computer, you can help by setting them in our style: **3 ¾" wide, 12 point font size, standard font.** Indent three spaces for paragraphs, and do not use an extra space between paragraphs. Please be brief, to share our limited space. If you have questions, call a Post staffer.

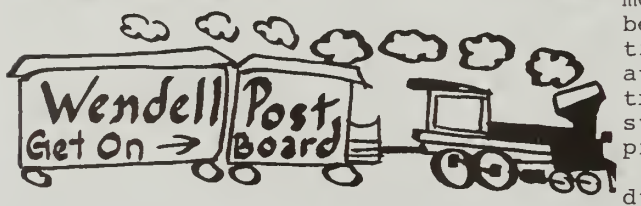
Articles: The Post welcomes signed, concise articles about topics of interest to Wendell.

Letters: The Post accepts brief letters. Remember, passion doesn't need to be mean

Artwork: Local artwork lovingly accepted. Must be in shiny black ink.

Ads: $7.50 per business card!

We now have an e-mail address! Write us or submit articles to wendellpost@yahoo.com



D&B LANDFILL PUBLIC FORUM: CITIZENS' PERSPECTIVE

A public forum was held on Feb. 23 to discuss D&B Landfill issues, including the illegal dumping of 50 loads containing asbestos in 1996 and the upcoming summer closing & capping.

Over 60 people attended, including members of the Dept. of Environmental Protection (DEP), D&B Landfill owners Joe Diemand and Dean Bennett, reps from Millers River Watershed Council and Connecticut River Watershed Council, a rep from Sen. Rosenberg's office, members of nearly all town boards and depts., and former members of the Board of Health (BoH) who gave the initial site assignment for the landfill.

Nina Keller, Wendell Hazardous Waste Coordinator, listed the problems Wendell has encountered over the years due to the landfill, and presented a letter (see "Demolition Dump Closure" in this issue) which was signed by 12 town boards and depts.

The response to Nina's letter from the DEP was as follows: they would be able to review and inspect the landfill closure and report all findings to the Selectboard; the Perpetual Trust Account requested for use of the town for post-closure activities will be discussed by the DEP and their attorneys. The 4th request, that Wendell be named a party in any legal action taken by the Attorney General regarding the asbestos dumping, needs to be responded to by the AG's office.

Sharon Gensler and Rosie Heidkamp, members of the BoH at the time of the site assignment, explained how the current landfill was not at all what was presented to them at the time of the request. (See Sharon's letter on p. 2 of the Wendell Post, Vol. 19#6, Mar/Apr '96.) They were led to believe that a small amount of benign demolition debris would be placed on Joe Diemand's auto salvage yard to deal with the slope and the mud, and that once leveled, the area would be paved over to store junked cars.

No mention was made, nor seemed to need to have been made in view of the proposal, about the very close proximity to Lyons Brook and the Millers River. Without their knowledge, the BoH had turned over their local control to the state DEP, which then allowed a "state of the art" lined landfill to be constructed, legally capable of handling hazardous waste.

Despite such capability, the Town did not permit anything other than a demolition landfill, yet the illegal asbestos dumping (which, as pointed out by a citizen, amounted to 3x the volume of the Town Hall) points to a possibility that other hazardous waste might also have been illegally dumped.

Aside from the proximity to the brook and river, several problems point to a need for perpetual vigilance over the landfill. One citizen reported that in the Federal Register, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has stated that even the best liners will fail and that this failure may be delayed by decades in the best-constructed landfills, and therefore that the current plan to monitor the landfill for 30 years may be insufficient. One citizen mentioned a report analyzing the leachate in which trichlorethylene and trichlorofloromethane were found, substances listed by the EPA as priority toxic pollutants.

A citizen mentioned the continued dumping of large amounts of "automobile fluff" (shredded auto parts) for filler, which is neither benign nor demolition debris, and contains levels of PCB's, PVC, lead, cadmium and pentane. In 1992, the BoH prohibited the dumping of fluff; however, it was resumed in 1995.

Citizens pointed to problems with large numbers of trucks, speeding through Wendell and neighboring towns. They complained of debris along the road and brook adjacent to the landfill, as well as flying off trucks traveling through adjacent towns.

Contents of material planned for capping also drew objections.

D&B is a distributor for Amerigro's Soilrich, a product containing spent anaerobic bacteria from wastewater treatment plants. One citizen expressed the belief that this product is a type of sewage sludge, which can contain dioxins, PCB's, DDT, asbestos, petroleum products, industrial solvents etc.

D&B also plans to use for cover 90,000 cu. yds. of soil from the back part of Joe Diemand's salvage yard, downhill from the cars. Citizens expressed concern over possible contamination of this soil, environmental impacts of removing such a large quantity, and a need for oversight.

Levels of contaminants permitted by EPA and DEP to be dumped in demolition landfills aren't necessarily levels which would leave the environment intact. The Town now needs to insure its environment and resources like the Millers River are protected.

Concerned citizens in the region are asked to participate in this effort, in whatever capacity you are able. Please call Gloria at 544-0922 or Nancy Riebschlaeger at 544-2741 to help. LANDFILLS ARE FOREVER.

Gloria Kegeles

Demolition Dump Closure

The Demolition Debris Landfill on Mormon Hollow, Wendell, called DB Enterprises, is closing this summer. As Wendell's Hazardous Waste Coordinator, I do not feel the town is properly represented in the closure process. DB are neighbors with some generosity towards the town. They offer free disposal privileges to residents, they paid for the fence around the basketball court and as any industry, they expanded our tax base by thousands of dollars from the tipping fees per cubic yard of debris accepted. We can thank them for this.

This does not mean we should be mute about problems:

-The shape and height is not as town officials had expected as being level with Mormon Hollow Rd. Instead it looms high above.

-The final use is no longer to extend a six acre auto salvage yard

-There have been years of extension

-The aesthetics of our town have changed, neighbors have been subjected to noxious odors, decrease in property value and loss of view of the Millers River.

-An unpredicted fire caused loss of health, time, energy and spewed tons of blackened "water" into the Millers River.

-The town will always be subjected to the visual, environmental, social, emotional impacts of the project.

-Revelation of illegal asbestos dumping, years after it happened, shakes trust in the management of the site and belief that the components of the landfill are purely harmless. The state AG is currently in litigation about this situation.

Therefore I called for a hearing on 2/23 and wrote a letter amended and then signed by many town officials, and sent it to the Department of Environmental

Protection (DEP), the Attorney General and DB. I made four proposals:

1. At all important steps in the closure procedure, i.e. layering of clay and other cover materials, the final investigation of effluent and any monitoring systems. and before the capping procedure, an independent review and inspection be done by a licensed engineer, responsible and accountable to the DEP.

2. All information concerning findings, meetings, etc., printed or otherwise, be delivered to the Selectboard.

3. Any monies remaining from closure procedures be kept in a Perpetual Trust Account managed by the town and available for use by the town and therefore longer than the stated 30 year period. The balance will not therefore be returned to the owner as currently stated, but will be used exclusively for normal and/or excessive post closure activities in the spirit of thanking and further protecting the town from any expenses the town may incur as the result of the project. Grants from the interest will be available for related environmental education tools, with funds to be administered at the discretion of the town. Penalties from the Attorney General's current case may also go into this trust account.

4. Wendell wants to be a named party in any resolution to the legal action.

The DEP, according to The Financial Assurance Plan for the project and State Law 310 CMR 19.142-4, has the discretion to act on 3 of the requests, and the AG has the power to include our town as recipients in the asbestos suit if penalties are collected.

The closure process seems too simple in that it could come and go without notice. We do not feel included in the step by step process unless we are more vocal. The illegal dumping of asbestos from 96-97, was only revealed to us publicly via a Boston Globe article. One member of our Bd. of Health had been aware of the problem, but because of an oversight he can not comprehend, did not alert town officials. When the communication about a crucial process relies on volunteer town workers, no matter how dedicated, compared to full time and salaried engineers and staff of business and state, the process is weakened on behalf of the town. Thus my 1st and 2nd requests.

The presence of some illegal material in the mountain of debris, may be indicative of other components. Because the town will ultimately be responsible for mishap 30 years after closure, when money in the last DB escrow account is returned to the owner, and monitoring ends, and because the state has no official agreement with the town to protect the abutters, the towns across and down river, the railroad, and the environment from unexpected mishap, we request the DEP to amend the agreement according to its jurisdiction and create a Perpetual Trust. We request the AG in their current litigation against Mass Highway, trucking contractors and DB, to deposit penalties into a perpetual trust according to our third request.

Nina Keller
Wendell Hazardous Waste Coordinator

Arsenault

Towing & Recovery Service

107 Wendell Depot Road
Wendell Depot, MA 01380

978-544-9955

Let It Be Two Lanes-- but Plainer and Simpler

Here are comments I sent to the MEPA section of the state environmental affairs office on the new Route 2 proposal for four lanes to Rt. 122.
Jonathan von Ranson

Dear Secretary Duran,

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

I was surprised by Mass Highway linking a four-lane Route 2 proposal with the proposed safety improvements. I was also dismayed by what I see as a trick of language in the ENR.

From the terminology ("long term" and "interim" improvements) someone is being encouraged to think Route 2 must become four lanes to Orange in order to be complete. Yet a double-barrel configuration will stop somewhere. Phillipston is a better place than Orange for the taxpayer...and also for the stability of many North Quabbin communities and environment. To double-barrel beyond Phillipston solves no problem that's been identified.

By lumping and subtly mislabeling the two proposals, Mass Highway seems to be trying to leap the crucial steps of justification and public consensus.

According to Mass Highway's own data, the second barrel harms directly with wetlands impacts. An indirect impact is sprawl--a small word with big connotations to this rural area. Traffic volumes don't justify four lanes, even projected into the future. Nor do known safety issues beyond those addressed by the safety improvements, which I notice would cause almost no environmental harm.

The only rationale for the 4-lane plan is a narrow political one: selectboards gathered last fall to vote on a package agreement which required voting for four lanes to Orange or killing the safety improvements. No public consensus stood behind the four-lane part of the package. Put plainly, safety is being used as a Trojan Horse to get bulldozers and blueprints into the area and start a chain-reaction development process that few desire.

In the name of good planning, I trust MEPA will insist Mass Highway build only what traffic and safety conditions justify.

Doing so would extend the 10-year-long civil/environmental peace here. Every decade the state seems to forget there's no money, consensus or even plan for four-lanes the rest of the way to Greenfield. Something like the Phillipston-Orange proposal turns up and puts the pressure on sensitive areas to the west--Erving/Wendell, the French King Gorge and Factory Hollow--for which there seems to be no acceptable alignment or design. To piecemeal the road like this backs the neighbors and defenders of these threatened areas into a corner. It's a tyrannical, primitive planning practice with which I doubt Mass Highway wants to be identified.

Safety, on the other hand, almost everyone agrees should be improved. The safety proposal attempts that by moving in one direction--making the existing high-speed highway more foolproof. It might work. But please consider to what extent the root cause might be *driver disorientation*--inappropriate driving due to mixed signals the highway gives--explaining some disastrous misjudgments at the wheel. This is a dissonant highway. It badly needs integrity of design.

The idea is: *downplay the limited-access features of the road.* Favor its two-way traffic function over its high-speed function. In doing so, let go of the nostalgic vision of four lanes to Greenfield. Admit that our tiny state doesn't want or need and can ill afford a second limited-access east-west automobile route. (The mind-set here as elsewhere has tipped forever toward protection of nature and communities). Remove the sword hanging over us. Acknowledge the true character of Route 2 west of Phillipston by making the highway look and drive like what it is: *a two-lane transitional stretch between an interstate-type design and a true country highway.*

The object is for the road to *feel* two-lane in order to increase driver patience and alertness. The process might involve taking down the green overhead signs and installing smaller ones at roadside. Grade intersections in some cases and less aggressive mowing in other areas might help. Most important, in my opinion, would be to release some of the excess right of way for travel-oriented businesses, preferably near intersections and residential areas, to give the road more interest and two-lane feel.

Familiar cues are essential to help westbound drivers adjust their mindset from four-lane to two-way traffic. Some of the safety improvements may be consistent with it (climbing lane, police pullout, rumble strip). But classic improvements like increased sight distances and wider shoulders paradoxically increase both speeding and highway hypnosis--in other words widen the Route 2 message gap.

Specifically, I ask Mass Highway to

- separate the two projects,
- drop the four-lane proposal for lack of justification,
- change "Interim Improvements" to "Safety Measures." (Neutral wording avoids the prejudice implied in "interim" and grants the review process due respect). And
- bring the road's design into line with its 2-lane function.

I hope my comments are as useful.

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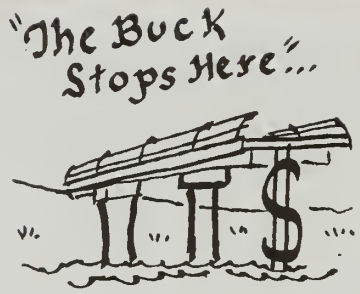
Letter to the Post readers,

Last issue I thought about writing about the peace circle held in November and I didn't. Sometimes I like things to roll around in my brain before I write them down. What I want to say about that experience was that it amazed me how many people showed up and it also amazed me to hear that alot of folks had so many layers of grief and hostility toward police in general. This was very good for our department to hear because it told us when we interact with an individual we may be dealing with issues that happened years ago. What I would like to ask the town is to think about our individual prejudices. I know that we as police have the power to take away someone's freedom - however temporarily- it can be an intense thing. Most times I hope that we start out treating each other as we would like to be treated ourselves. I know this doesn't always happen - on both sides. It is just another goal to reach for. One more thing I want to ask is when you hear something about the police department - make an effort to find out both sides of the story.

In closing I want to say that we live in this town. That we all have seen changes and to remember that we are your neighbors and to many we consider our friends.

Anne Diemand



TRYING TO GET A BRIDGE UPDATE

Attempting to get information about the Wendell Depot bridge, I called John Carlisle, public affairs director of the Mass. Highway Dept. (617-973-7889). His secretary referred me to Leonard Aversa (617-973-7581). Leonard was out but returned my call, leaving me a message that the bridge's new foundation design was complete, and that negotiations with the contractor were in progress for construction to start, probably in the spring. He also referred me to Joe Yablonski of Highway district two (413-584-1611) for more details.

When I called, Joe Yablonski referred me back to John Carlisle.

John Carlisle's office returned my second call with the information that the new foundation design had been submitted and was under review, and construction would probably begin in the upcoming season.

The people I spoke with were not able to give me details about the size of design of the new bridge, or about the amount of money involved.

Josh Heinemann

UMass University Without Walls Honors Student, Boo Pearson

UWW Honors student, William 'Boo' Pearson, has been awarded an Honors Research Fellowship to support his proposed research project. He will be working with Professor Mitchell Mulholland of the Anthropology Department. The title of his research project is "A Survey and Analysis of a Middle Archaic Site in the Connecticut River Valley.

Boo plans on presenting his work at the fifth annual Massachusetts undergraduate conference, to be held April 30, 1999 in Boston. The fellowship selection committee authorized support of up to $1,000 to cover costs related to the research project. Congratulations, Boo!

(reprinted from the UWW Update newsletter 1/99)

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Y2K Preparedness Information Meeting

According to recent polls, few Americans believe that the year 2000 computer problem (y2k) poses a potentially serious threat to their well-being. This is understandable since few politicians and business leaders are saying so publicly. One exception is the Governor of South Dakota, William Janklow, who said in his Jan. 13, 1999 State of the State address: "We face an absolute catastrophe in the world because of this problem. On the other hand it may not be much of anything. The biggest problem is, we don't know. But don't take anybody lightly that tells you that the roof could come falling in. I can tell you today that if the year 2000 hit today, the electric grid that serves South Dakota would go down. It would not stay up, and don't believe anybody that tells you it would."

The power companies in New England are telling people that there should be no problems, just as they are telling people in South Dakota. But in fact there are good reasons to fear that power companies might not become ready for the year 2000. What would happen to people in places like Wendell if power went down for a long time? Central heating and deep wells are useless without electricity. Grocery stores could not stay open. We're talking mid-winter. Those without wood stoves and stored food could be in big trouble.

As the South Dakota governor said, we don't know how bad it's going to be. But even if one thinks that a long power outage is unlikely, the consequences of guessing wrong are so dire that it would be wise to prepare just in case. And if things get really rough it's going to be especially important that there be preparedness on the community level.

As a first step in this direction the town council is inviting all Wendell residents to a meeting at the Town Hall on Sunday March 28 at 2 p.m.
Please bring your concerns and any pertinent info.

MIND GARDENS FLOURISH

The Write Stuff: Poetry in Wendell

North Quabbin area poets treated interested Wendellites to three inspirational evenings of poetry reading at the Wendell Free Library this February.

Poets Doris Abramson, Robert Collet and Candace R. Curran read from their published works, answered questions from participants and offered philosophical insights into the nature of poetry.

Marcia Gagliardi, of Haleys Publishing and Antiques in Athol, facilitated the event. Funding was provided by the Massachusetts Cultural Council via the Wendell Arts Lottery. Rosie Heidkamp, our local librarian, also helped organize this project.

As one of the participants, I can attest to the tremendous success of this cultural offering! The fact that the dozen or so participants all returned week after week in the dead of winter is itself a kind of poetic miracle. Ms. Gagliardi skillfully guided the discussion so that everyone had the opportunity to actively participate. She even managed to persuade each of us to bring a poem of our own to share at the final gathering! Although many of us introduced our pieces with disclaimers such as, "This isn't really a poem"; or, "I wrote this a long, long time ago"; we all read (or in one case sang) and received loving feedback from our fellow participants.

Many thanks to everyone who made this event possible, especially Ms. Gagliardi and the three poets who gave of themselves with such generousity. A wonderful experience was had by all.

— Beth McConnell

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NEW YORK, NY 10005

OBITUARY

Luciel Harrington

Luciel (Gardner) Newhall Harrington, formerly of Wendell, died 12-17-98 in Charlene Manor in Greenfield.

She was born in Boston, Sept. 10, 1906, and adopted by Frederick and Amelia Gardner of Gloucester. She attended the Boston Conservatory of Music for four years and learned classical Piano. She taught piano to students from her home in Wendell Center. She also attended Boston University, majoring in math and English.

She was married to Stanley Newhall, owner of the Times Minuteman and the Townsend newspapers, for 20 years before his death.

She later married Avery Harrington. He died 2 1/2 years later.

Luciel was involved with the Episcopal Church in Athol. She later studied the Bible and was baptized with the Jehovah's Witnesses in 1971.

She loved horses and had a Palomino, 2 Arabians and 2 Morgans. She enjoyed opera and reading.

Survivors include a stepdaughter, Sandra (Chase) Adcock of Greenfield, and 2 stepsons, Stephen and Prescott Newhall of Everett.

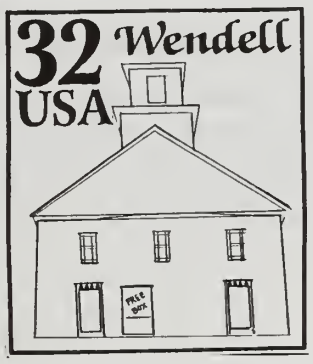
She was buried in a graveside service in Northfield Cemetery officiated by her son-in-law, Ben Adcock.

Memorial contributions may be made to Jehova's Witnesses, 25 Columbia Heights, Brooklyn NY 11201 or Hospice of Western New England, 164 High Street, Greenfield MA 01301

Be glad of life!
because it gives you the chance
to love and work,
to play,
and to look up at the stars.

Jerry van Dyke

History



On Tuesday night, January 12, Jean Forward of the Wendell Historical Commission presented a lecture on the history of Wendell at the town library.

The audience packed the library's main floor as Jean offered anecdotes and references to Wendell's often difficult-to-trace history.

Jean, a visiting lecturer in the anthropology department at the Univ. of Mass. in Amherst, has been collecting articles about the history of Wendell for many years. She hopes to collate her findings and release her research as a finished book in the near future. Capitalizing on her background in anthropology, Jean delves into data, such as census reports and tax records, to extrapolate information that can lead to an understanding of ordinary people's lives.

Members of the audience were encouraged to ask questions about our town's history. One question was how the town came to be called Wendell. Jean replied that Judge Oliver Wendell of Boston donated a bell to the Meeting House and in appreciation the town was named after him.

Another question concerned the much repeated rumor that Hetty Green would've donated a library to the town in return for the building being named in her honor. (Hetty Green was believed to be the richest woman in the world, at the time of her death in 1916. Her connection to Wendell is through her marriage in 1867 to Edward H. Green, son of Judge Joshua Green. Judge Green moved to Wendell about 1790.) Jean debunked that rumor noting that Hetty Green was noted for her simple life and shrewd dealings in the stock market. Hetty Green is also commonly remembered as the "witch of Wall Street". Jean remarked that it was highly unlikely that Hetty Green ever would have made such an offer. To reinforce her opinion, Jean related an incident that befell one of Hetty's children. Her son injured his leg in a sledding accident. She refused to pay for any treatment and wandered to a few free clinics; by the time her husband learned of his son's injury, it was too late for healing and the child's leg was amputated.

Wendell was incorporated on May 8, 1781. The territory of the town was taken from parts of northern Shutesbury and land south of the Millers River from Erving. On Feb. 28, 1803, a piece of land known as "Benjamin Hill Gore"; and a tract 1 mile wide from Montague were added.

The town was settled from three directions. Thomas Osgood, from New Salem, settled in the north part of town as early as 1754, and perhaps a few others. The people were connected somewhat with Shutesbury, and at first belonged to its ecclesiastical organization. The next settlement was made from the direction of Shutesbury. The family names of some of these settlers were Ross, Locke, Wilder, Beaman, Glazier, Wetherbee, and Hamilton. These and later settlers were mostly from Lancaster, Leominster, and Middleboro. From the direction of Montague on the west, only five or six families had entered the present territory of Wendell by 1795. (From History of Western Massachusetts, 1854 or 1855. Volume located at Northfield Public Library, non-circulating room.)

Jean explained that the early settlements in town were sited along prominent terrain features, such as ridges, hilltops, or along stream crossings. This facilitated ease of transportation and communication.

The town contributed many troops to the revolutionary cause during the War for Independence. The wages of soldiers were paid by the town, bounties were given to them for enlistment and clothes provided. At the 2nd town meeting it was voted "to raise 72 pounds hard money to procure our portion of continental beef", and a committee was chosen to procure it. (From the History of Western Massachusetts.)

Jean was asked about Wendell's part in Shay's Rebellion. She remarked that no records were kept of active participation, possibly because of repercussions that could've befallen the participants. (In the History of W. Mass., reference is made to: "During Shays Rebellion, there was considerable disaffection in the town, and a company of 30 to 40 men, with a lieutenant at their head, were in the army of Shays at Springfield. They were not, however, sustained in their action by the town, as some other companies were."

Jean cited some references to the effect that Wendell has had a history of independence and independent thinkers. It was said that people in Wendell have often "marched to the beat of their own drum."

The history of Wendell, although difficult to trace, is not a completely unwritten work. As mentioned before, Jean hopes to collate her findings and compile a woven history of Wendell in the near future.

References to the history of Wendell can be found in many area libraries. The collections in the non-circulating rooms at the Jones Library in Amherst, and the public libraries of Montague Center, Orange, and Northfield hold many fine books containing stories about Wendell.

Joseph Coll

Oh My Garden! Oh Dear! Oh Deer!

Over the years people have consulted their WRATS resources for help with deer problems. Ruth Horley's pamphlet "Scot" subtitled "Pest-Proofing Your Garden" (and published by Storey Communications Inc. at 150 Schoolhouse Road in Pownal, VT 05261 at 800-441-5700) offers this:

Deer are able to leap an 8-foot fence, so simply fencing your garden is not sufficient. A 4-foot width of chicken wire spread flat on the ground around the garden may be a better barrier against deer than the same chicken wire fastened to upright posts. Deer dislike walking on the wire. If you do not lay the wire completely around the garden, place it at the points where the deer usually enter and leave. Stake it down. Black plastic also discourages deer crossings, but to a lesser degree.

Deer have a highly developed sense of smell. One of the best repellents is dried blood put into small cloth bags—similar to tobacco pouches—and hung along the fence at intervals. Hanging the ill-smelling blood on the fence or on the lower branches of trees you wish to protect seems to be more effective than spreading it on the ground. As stated before, this may attract dogs. The Cooperative Extension Service of Orange County, NY, recommends hanging bags of human hair in trees to discourage browsing by deer. The hair can be collected from barber shops or beauty parlors and stuffed into old nylon stockings or plastic mesh produce bags, such as onion bags. A bag about the size of a softball should be hung in the tree to be protected. If the problem is severe, try hanging a bag in every tree.

They also have pamphlets about various crops, animals, cooking and preserving.

Parker Cleveland

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Town Elections

Elections this year will be Monday, May 4, 1999. Anyone wishing to run for office can get nomination papers from Anna Hartjens; papers must be turned in by March 15. The last day to register to vote for this election is April 13, Tuesday.

As of February 18, the following are positions requiring elections, followed by the person or people (if any) who are running or are expected to run. Unless otherwise noted, they have taken out nomination papers.

Selectboard 3 yrs. Kathryn Bentley

Board of Assessors 3 yrs. Mary McBride

Board of Assessors 2 yrs. to fill a vacancy: Marion Herrick
Marion Herrick was appointed until this election to fill a vacancy.

Town Clerk 3 yrs. Anna Hartjens

Tax Collector 3 yrs. Penny Delorey
Penny Delorey has been working by appointment in this position.

Treasurer 3 yrs. Carolyn Manley

Board of Health 3 yrs. Janee Stone

Board of Health 2 yrs. to fill a vacancy due to resignation: no one so far.

Planning Board 5 yrs. Ken Holmberg

Planning Board 2 yrs. Marianne Sundell

Moderator 1 yr. Kathy Anne Becker

Cemetery Commissioner 3 yrs.
No one at this time.

Road Commissioner 3 yrs. Dave Wilder has not yet taken out papers.

School Committee 3 yrs. Flizabeth McConnell has not yet taken out papers; has expressed an inclination not to run.

Tree Warden 1 yr. Dan Bacigalupo

Library Trustees Sylvia Wetherby
Judith Putnam

So far no election is contested, and two to four positions are open without declared candidates, depending on the intentions of two incumbents.

Josh Heinemann

Census forms

Reminding Wendell residents to mail back the 1999 Census forms that were mailed out last month.

One-third of the forms have not been returned to the Town Clerk. Any residents who have not received their census forms or need a new one, please call the Town Clerk at (978) 544-6682 or 544-6052.

The information obtained on the census form is used in projecting school and public safety needs, certification of residence for in-state tuition, excise tax abatements, veterans' services and voting status.

A. Hartjens
Town Clerk

Wendell Police Log

Officer A. Diemand

12-12-98	Officer call back. Orange District Court.
	False alarm. Rush Rd.
12-13-98	Officer call back. Swift River School bus driver.
12-17-98	Icy road warning. Lockes Village Rd
12-18-98	Alarm or holdup. Jennison Rd.
12-19-98	B&E. Mormon Hollow Rd.
12-22-98	Larceny. Locke's Village Rd.
	Check welfare. Lockes Village Rd.
12-31-98	Officer wanted. Farley Rd.
01-01-99	Trespass. Wren Gould Rd.
	Transporting one female. Lockes Village Rd.
01-02-99	One car accident. Lockes Village.
	One car accident. Lockes Village.
01-03-99	Officer wanted. Locke Hill Rd.
	Officer wanted. Kentfield Rd.
01-06-99	Suspicious vehicle. Old Stage Rd.
01-10-99	One car accident. Farley Rd.
01-11-99	One car accident. Montague Rd.
01-12-99	Disabled MV. Lockes Village Rd.
	911 hang up. Farley Rd.
	Papers served. Stone Rd.
	OUI. Montague Rd.
01-18-99	All town roads closed.
01-19-99	Officer wanted. Orange Court.
	Officer wanted. Kentfield Rd.
01-20-99	Disabled MV. Wendell Rd.
01-24-99	Officer call back.
01-25-99	Abandoned boat trailer. Kentfield Rd.
02-02-99	Disabled MV. Montague Rd.
	Disabled MV. Wendell Depot. MV is blocking traffic.
	Disabled MV. Farley Rd.
02-03-99	Officer call Back/
02-05-99	Horses loose. Wendell Center.
	Missing propane tanks. Bullard Pasture Rd.
02-06-99	One car accident. New Salem Rd.

These are the calls that come through dispatch to us. Officers may receive calls in other ways also.

COPS CORNER

The following column is something I have thought about doing for awhile. Any questions you may have please send to Cops Corner, Wendell P.D., Main St., Wendell, Mass. 01379.

TRAFFIC STOPS:

Pull over to the right as far as is safe.
Stay in your motor vehicle.
Keep you hands in plain view.
Be prepared to give license and registration upon request by officer.
Do not be antagonistic.
Treat officer as you would like to be treated. Your attitude will most likely be reciprocated.
If you don't stop - it is an arrest able offense.
If you REFUSE to show you license and registration - it is an arrest able offense.

DEFAULT WARRANTS:

A default warrant is issued when a person fails to appear in court or fails to pay a fine.
Default warrants have no bail.
If the warrant is for nonpayment of a fine the fine has to be paid in full.
If an officer does not arrest a person with a default warrant it is a criminal violation against the officer

The law is an interesting thing. There is much to know about it. We as officers are bound to do the job we all swore to do.

Keep thinking,
Officer Diemand

Trooper Benoit

ATTENTION: #1

Wendellites and Important Pets

Our **ANNUAL RABIES CLINIC** will be held **Saturday, March 20th, 1999 at 10 am to 11 am** at the Town Garage. Dr. Lauralyn Brown will be vaccinating and answering questions. Be responsible, be kind and bring your animals to the clinic.

Thanx, Board of Health

Janee Stone Morgan Mead

ATTENTION: #2

BOARD OF HEALTH VACANCIES

We are in urgent need of a Clerk for BOH. This is a paid position ($600 per year). Call Janee Stone for details. (544-3594)

We are also looking for another BOH member. This is an elected position for a two-year term. Contact the Town Clerk, Anna Hartjens (544-6052 or 544-6682) to get your name on the ballot. Call Janee Stone or Morgan Mead (544-8020) for more information.

We are missing Bob Leet, who recently resigned from the BOH after a decade of committed service. Bob was our Chairman, our Title 5 expert, our liaison with D & B Enterprises, and took a special interest in the management of WRATS. He brought to the BOH his compassionate understanding of living in Wendell and his valuable skills and experience as a professional engineer. Bob is leaving to devote more time to his engineering business, but will continue to advise BOH on Title 5 issues. We miss Bob and wish him well.

Board of Health

Janee Stone Morgan Mead

ATTENTION MASSAGE THERAPISTS

Any person wishing to practice massage for a fee in the Town of Wendell must first obtain a license from the Board of Health. Rules and Regulations governing Massage Therapy and license applications are available at the Town Office and at the Post Office. For more information, please call Janee Stone, 544-3594.

Wendell Aikido 10 years

On Sunday, January 24, Wendell Aikido celebrated ten years since Ria Windcaller established a dojo in town. The party at the Wendell Town Hall featured food, which was delicious, demonstrations by all the members present from beginner to Black Belt, and a video documentary produced by recent Black Belt, Brian Jones. The video showed members and teachers talking about their experiences and views of Aikido, scenes of town and of actual practice.

Aikido is a martial art based on meeting an attack by directing the attacker's energy to bring him lovingly to the ground.

The demonstrations were done a second time for the benefit of one member's family that was late arriving because of winter driving conditions.

A beginner's class is planned to start in March. For information please call Ria Windcaller at (413) 367-9787.

Josh Heinemann

Dear Wendell Post,

Recently, Wendell resident and longtime friend Parker Cleveland contacted me to arrange for the use of the conference room at the West River Health Center in Orange for a meeting of a community organization he is involved in. He sent me a nice thank you note with the following addendum:

"Every year when your annual appeal comes, I think: 'In what way is AMH my community hospital? I know it's not mine in a legal sense and I don't feel that in any other way. I must write Allen about this and ask, but I'll get to it later.' Due to your kind help, I now feel a little different and 'later' is here. Is it a non-profit? Is it traded on the New York Stock Exchange? How is the board of directors constituted? What is the structure for community input? Etc.?"

Here is my brief reply to Parker, which I would like to share with all readers of the Wendell Post:

Athol Memorial Hospital is a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation. It is not traded on the NYSE, although it is true that some hospitals are now owned by "for-profit" companies, and it is within the realm of possibility that some day, to preserve core health care services in Athol, we may partner with one of those companies. At present, nonetheless, AMH is governed by a board of trustees of about 45 people elected by the "corporators." Anyone who resides or works in the 9-town area can be a corporator for $10 annual fee. In that sense, the community owns the hospital. Policy is set by the trustees, though in practical terms, the 9-member executive committee of the board is the real decision-making body— mostly local businessmen and professionals. The hospital participates in the North Quabbin Community Coalition (formerly Health and Human Services Coalition). The Coalition is, in theory at least, a grass roots organization which provides an opportunity for community involvement, in addition to the formal structure mentioned at the beginning of this paragraph.

Regarding Wendell specifically, many residents of Wendell have used the hospital since our doors opened in 1950, and we have provided quality health care to these patients. With the exception of maternity and inpatient psychiatry, most services available at Cooley Dickinson Hospital or Franklin Medical Center are also available at Athol Memorial. I don't believe there is any rational basis for thinking that care is "better" in Northampton or Greenfield than here in Athol. However, it is my impression that the majority of Wendell residents are oriented to Greenfield and Amherst/Northampton, and it is difficult to involve them in the Athol-Orange area for health care, shopping or anything else. Unfortunately, it appears that the many merits of the Athol-Orange area, in general, may escape some Wendell residents. I continue my outreach efforts on behalf of the hospital through such things as ads in the Wendell Post, direct mail, and support of the Wendell/New Salem File of Life program.

Please consider Athol Memorial Hospital and its many highly-skilled and qualified health care professionals for your health care needs. All Wendell Post readers are invited to call me at 249-3511 X143 for physician referral and to request a packet of information about AMH. Thank you. Yours sincerely,

Allen Young
Director of Community Relations

Heaven

We have this concept-- Heaven; and a very disabling idea about it-- that you have to die to get there. That puts a very low ceiling on our hopes for a better world. And we bump our brains on it. And we write off our dreams as fantasies that no realistic person could contemplate. The death of dreams gives birth to nightmares.

But Eternity has no entrance or exit.

We are in it.

Now!

I do believe in the death of my ego. (Egos are not found in Heaven— only in their private Hells.)

Egos isolate.

"Nothing real can be threatened.
Nothing unreal exists."*

I'm real.

Life and death are flip-side faces on reality's coin, mere masks of being, like phases of the Moon— sometimes seen, othertimes not— but always there.

Reality is.
Being is.
Heaven is the awareness I enter
after checking my ego
at the door.

* a summary of A Course in Miracles from its Introduction.

Parker Cleveland

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West River Health Center

450 West River St., Orange, Mass.
(Exit 14 off Route 2)

- Fadi Baladi, MD, internal medicine - 544-1505
- Michael Azzoni, MD, orthopedics / sports medicine - 544-1512
- Orthopedic Physical Therapy - 544-1510
- Visiting Specialists - (for podiatry call 1-800-655-5722, for all others call 249-3511 Ext. 292 for appointments)
  - Richard Genovese, DPM, podiatric medicine and surgery
  - Andrea Damour, MD, obstetrics/gynecology
  - Harold Goldman, MD, neurology
  - Daniel Ervin, DO, otolaryngology (ears-nose-throat)
  - Howard Tice, MD, gastroenterology
  - Donald Levine, MD, endocrinology
  - George Krasowski, MD, surgery
- X-ray and Laboratory Services - 544-1500
- Athol Memorial Home Health & Hospice, a department of Athol Memorial Hospital, offering skilled nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, social service, HIV-AIDS case management and referrals -- 544-1523 for HIV-AIDS, 249-5366 for all other calls.

No matter where your doctor's office is located, you can come to the West River Health Center for lab and x-ray (check with your insurance carrier, however, for coverage).

a facility of
Athol Memorial Hospital

2033 Main St., Athol, Tel.: 978-249-3511

Your community hospital... serving the North Quabbin Region
An affiliate of UMass Memorial Health Care
Visit our web site: www.atholhospital.org

Posting Place

Movement

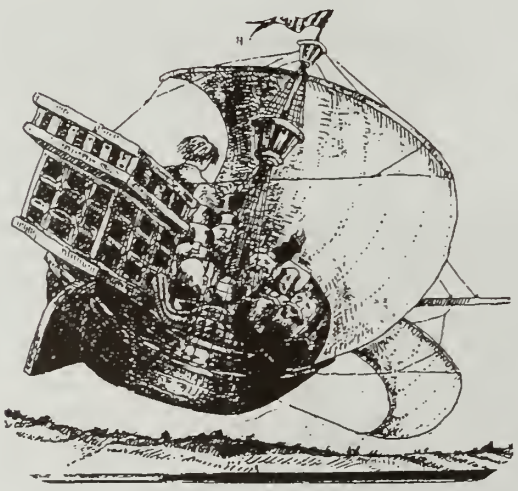
Six week Beginner's Class in Aikido

Starting March 24, 1999, Bob Bauver of Wendell Aikido will be teaching a six week class on Wednesday nights from 7– 8 p.m.. This class is specifically designed for those who are interested in Aikido, but have had no previous experience.

Wendell Aikido Club holds classes at the Swift River Elementary School, on the New Salem/Wendell town line. This Japanese martial art is extremely aerobic and dynamic in nature.

Bob is a first degree black belt and eight year member of Wendell Aikido club. He brings into his teaching an extensive background in fencing and a passion for Iaido, the Japanese art of swordsmanship.

Regular classes are held on Mondays from 6-7:30 and Wednesdays from 6-7. Anyone interested in the beginner's class or ongoing classes should call Ria Windcaller at 413-367-9787. There is a nominal fee for all classes.



Fool of the World

and the

Flying Ship

Come to see the third and fourth graders of Swift River Elementary School do a spectacular musical performance of the Russian folk tale "Fool of the World and the Flying Ship", adapted and directed by Sally Alley Muffin Stuffin. With an explosion of energy in song, dance and drama you will be transported to realms of fantasy, dazzled by our low-budget special effects, and entertained by our puppets small and large. And... you might even learn something about Math.

Showtime is 7:00 P.M. Tuesday, April 6th and Thursday, April 8th, in the Swift River Cafeteria.

This program is supported in part by the Wendell and New Salem Cultural Councils, both local agencies supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

Be there or be square.

Community Pot Luck

The Wendell Council on Aging invites all Wendell residents (this means everyone, not just seniors) to a community pot luck supper on Sunday March 7 4 to 6 p.m. at the Senior Center. Our first one (held in February) was a lot of fun and we hope to continue doing this on the first Sunday of each month. Please join us. Bring food and/or a poem or story to share if you wish.

Community Quilt

Anyone interested in helping sew, design or organize for a community quilt, to be raffled at Old Home Day, proceeds to go for a select town project, please call Nina Keller at 544-2857.

Stellar Beauty

Blue Skies Quilt Raffle

Eileen Sauvageau and Patti Scutari have created a beautiful, original hand-pieced quilt for a raffle in support of the Daley family.

If you haven't yet seen this blue, celestial-themed jewel of a quilt, check it out at the Greenfields Market in Greenfield (thru mid-March) or at the Wendell Country Store when it returns there for a few days before the winning ticket is drawn on March 21st. Tickets will continue to be available at the WCS. Prices are a dollar per ticket or seven tickets for five dollars or fifteen for ten. A GREAT DEAL! A GREAT CAUSE! A GORGEOUS QUILT! Over five hundred dollars have already been raised--don't miss your chance to be a participant in this effort and THANK YOU EILEEN AND PATTI!!!

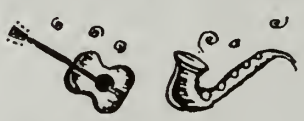
WENDELL'S ORIGINAL

FULLMOON COFFEEHOUSE

April 3
The Crocketts
To Benefit Good Neighbors

May 1
Klezamir
To benefit Enchanted Forest

June 5
Bob Francke
To benefit Wendell Town Hall



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GLIMPSES OF SOUTH AFRICA IN THE SWIFT RIVER SCHOOL

by Molly Kaynor

This winter the Swift River School was brimming with the vibrant and lively feel of South Africa. The six week study brought festive colors, patterns and silhouettes of South African wildlife to our hallways. It inspired so many games, songs, dances, political discussions, folklore, and delightful visits with South Africans, that it is impossible to relate all that went on at the school this winter. The following bits and pieces touch on some impressions I got during my visits to the school this winter. I hope they will give you a sense of how South Africa came alive and became meaningful to our kids:

I peeked in on Bruce Maleka in his big, tall Gumboots teaching vigorous South African dances to a group of fifth and sixth graders. What a workout! Jan Row and Sally Stuffin continued his dance instructions with other levels over the following few weeks, and made it possible for all students K-6 to learn various South African dances and perform them during the final Festival week before the Feb break.

I caught the end of a lively classroom discussion about our own struggles with prejudice, and how best to bring fairness and true equality to South Africa... I managed to join a few of Bekisizway Ndimande's many classroom visits where he shared some challenging South African soccer exercises. Beki generously shared his memories and feelings with classrooms about growing up in South Africa under apartheid... and I watched a few 3rd and 4th graders (who didn't think they were good at math) figure out how much his pocket full of Rand was worth in our country!

We all were mesmerized as Eshu Bumpus, in his long embroidered robe, gave our school a healthy dose of his spellbinding storytelling magic one Monday morning in the cafeteria... and then I participated in a writing workshop lead by Eshu Bumpus and learned how challenging it can be to write "explanatory tales."

I got a glimpse of some delighted pre-schoolers as they watched Erin William's enactment of an African folk tale about Zulu monkeys... I noticed a group of Kindergartners creating beads with Linda Ruel, and I saw 1st and 2nd graders carefully drawing maps of their own neighborhoods and creating floor plans of their homes to compare with homes and neighborhoods in South Africa.

There was silence in the room where 5th and 6th graders were helping their 1st and 2nd grade D.E.A.R. partners do research for their wildlife reports. That same day I tried my hand at planning color patterns and stringing Ndebelle bracelets with a class lead by Gail Krutka... and in the afternoon I found that painting those Ndebelle designs with Sally was a most rewarding lesson in geometry, contrast and color combinations!

Were there Zulu African songs coming from our music room?! Sure enough - during the final week of the program, there was a most impressive Community Sing when Swift River School students, under the direction of our own Ed Hines, and assisted by Peter Broggi, joined Prof. Mazamo Mangalizo's rich, warm melodies which spoke of community and work and the search for freedom.

During the last week of the program the gym was decorated to accommodate the final festivities where students proudly displayed their South African inspired projects. Their displays reflected how the arts and sciences and humanities were so well utilized by all classroom teachers.

The folk tales displayed throughout the gym, (some of which were written by students as young as first and second graders,) were excellent examples of the writing exercises which Eshu Bumpus shared so effectively with various classrooms.

Some first and second graders crafted handmade instruments and some created elaborate South African cities and villages. The PK and Kindergartners contributed animal masks, and beaded necklaces... and that basket full of colorful little African dolls designed and stitched by five year olds was incredible!

The benefits of having our new art department with such creative and energetic artists as Sally and Linda was evident in the way students made use of color, line, and shape. The exciting new mural at the top of the gym hallway was roughed in, drawn and then painted by a fifth and sixth grade group effort under the guidance of Linda Ruel.

Besides art projects, there was a 5th and 6th grade presentation which pointed out some of the alarming differences between black and white classrooms in South Africa... and there were games which taught interesting facts comparing the US with South Africa. It was informative and exciting to go deep inside the 5th and 6th grader's replica of a diamond mine with amazing special effects and many interesting facts about mining in South Africa to see along the way. The colorful patterns inside and outside the Ndebele house were a delight... and to watch 3rd and 4th graders work with such patience and precision on their Galimoto vehicles was amazing. Some created booklets where they compared family life in South Africa with their own... and those cloth wall hangings were very handsome!

Parental interest and participation was exceptional this year. There was a constant flow of families and friends even during the performances which fell on weekday mornings! A P.T.C.A. member noted that all 175 forks were used during their enjoyable South African family pot luck dinner. Speaking of food - Where else could one go for an authentic South African meal than the Swift River School cafeteria where Barb Hadocy, DianeZani, and Gloria Saben, (our brave cooks), created a delicious feast of Bobotie, yellow rice with raisins, mealie bread and green bean salad as a grand finale to our South African studies!

The effectiveness of the "Celebrate Diversity" program depends on a group effort. The program involves not just the students, but their families, their teachers and all staff members. It also is fueled by local volunteers and visitors from this five college area. Each year, the entire community benefits from Erin William's vision and initiative in producing and directing this valuable program. The strong support which our school's administration gives is crucial, as is the energy and commitment of Celebrate Diversity Committee members; Phyllis Lawerence, Joy Brenneman, Sally Stuffin, Kay Verney, Linda Ruel, Molly Kaynor, Erin Williams, and Christine Lewis.

"Celebrating Diversity" has brought our world closer to the Swift River School each year. We are fortunate that it is so well received here. Community support will continue to be key to the success of this program as our school works it into the social studies curriculum.

"Celebrating South Africa" is funded in part by the Massachusetts Cultural Council a state agency, the Wendell and New Salem Cultural Councils, Franklin County Business fund for the Arts, the New Salem Academy, the Swift River School and its PTCA, and local community members.

THE CELEBRATING DIVERSITY PROGRAM

There is an old proverb that says: "I hear, and I forget. I see, and I remember. I do, and I understand." The "Celebrating Diversity" program connects the Swift River School to other cultures in direct and meaningful ways. Students become actively engaged in the study of other countries by getting to know people from around the world. They benefit from the multicultural experiences offered which their teachers weave so gracefully and creatively into the curriculum of each grade level. This program invites critical thinking and stimulates creativity and social development. "Celebrating Diversity" effectively utilizes the arts along with sciences and humanities. Through performing artists, music, dance, art and math projects, exposure to foreign language, literature, political discussions, etc. our children's sense of the world broadens, and they become better able to see and understand their own culture and how it is effected by others.

Our children have benefited from the enrichment this program in countless ways. It is clear by their questions, their enthusiastic comments and their welcoming reception to our native guests, that Swift River School students have a knowledge which has given them a respect and appreciation of other cultures that many elementary school students do not yet have. A few years ago, it seemed that "Celebrating Diversity" was an unexpected, but pleasant, surprise. This year, in September, many students wanted to know when they would be celebrating what! They look forward to those exciting six weeks each year to explore other lands together.

"Celebrating Diversity" is a ground breaking program. It is an example of how the Massachusetts educational frameworks can be met in an effective and efficient way by integrating subject matter to create meaningful learning experiences for our young people. This award winning program is now an important component of the Swift River School's Social Studies curriculum.

- Molly Kaynor

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SELECTBOARD MINUTES

TOWN OF WENDELL MASSACHUSETTS 01379

TOWN HALL

Wendell Selectboard Meeting November 24,1998 Minutes Member present were Ted Lewis and Christine Heard. Also present was Marjorie Mc Ginnis, Town Coordinator and Wanita Sears. Warrant and minutes were signed. Correspondence was reviewed. Meeting convened at 7:00.

Board signed liquor license for Wendell Country Store. State liquor license form signed.

Board reviewed Bob Leet's resignation letter from Board of Health chair position effective January 1,1999. Mr. Leet will be in advisory position after that date. Board will look into County health service assistance.

Board will send thank you letter to Dean Bennett for donation of Town Office's park basketball court fence.

Wendell Post deadline is November 30,1998.

Board reviewed tax taking lien information received from Tax Collector.

Board reviewed letters received from Town Counsel John Gates that were sent to bonding company and DOR regarding previous Tax Collector.

Ted Lewis will attend December 3,1998 Veteran's office meeting regarding health insurance for office assistant.

Board signed contract for Warwick Town Hall elevator project as lead town for Michael Broad, Franklin Regional Housing and Redevelopment Authority.

Board reviewed memo received from Town Accountant regarding Board memo on information required to set tax rate.

Board reviewed letter from Erving Selectboard to Athol Selectboard regarding Route 2.

Board reviewed letter from Senator Stanley Rosenberg regarding Board request for work to continue on Wendell Depot Bridge. Senator Rosenberg gave a December 1998 start date as a new plan and contractor cooperation was needed.

Board reviewed letter faxed to Attorney Gates from Planning Board.

Board reviewed site visit program invitation received from Department of Housing and Community Development regarding downtown revitilization projects.

Board forwarded Edlinks program information received from Bell Atlantic to high school.

Marjorie Mc Ginnis will call legislators to encourage to attend Bill Signing Day in Boston referred to in MMA bulletin.

Invitation received from Morris, Mahoney & Miller to Providence Annual Reception.

Board reviewed invitation to nominate someone for Howdy Hospitality Awards.

Board signed 7:30 Pole Hearing for 1 pole for home construction on Stone Cutoff Road.

Board discussed progress on Town Hall Septic Committee. Christine Heard will represent Board at meetings. Marjorie Mc Ginnis will look into betterment funding.

Board signed 7:45 Pole Hearing after attendees had no objections to 39 poles on Wickett Pond Road that will reduce spans.

Ted Lewis informed Board that new oil tank in Town Hall had broke through concrete floor. Mike Anderson will reinforce floor.

Harry Williston, Road Commission and Danny Bacigalupo, Highway Manager discussed above ground fuel storage tank installation at Highway Garage with Board. Underground tank needs to be removed by December 22,1998 to comply with new Federal law. Timetable needs to be submitted to State and Fire Marshall by Friday November 27, 1998. Cost and funding to pay for discussed.

Board restated winter parking ban 4 feet from road edge and that it is a year round ban. Marjorie will submit notice to Greenfield Recorder.

Wanita Sears submitted resignation as Selectboard Clerk to Board effective upon replacement. Meeting adjourned at 8:50

Wendell Selectboard Meeting December 8,1998 Minutes Members present were Ted Lewis, Christine Heard, and Katharine Bentley. Also present was Marjorie Mc Ginnis, Town Coordinator and Wanita Sears. Warrant was signed. Correspondence was reviewed. Meeting convened at 7:00.

Board signed letter regarding Y2K compliance required with tax rate package.

Board signed letter for Tax Collector verifying authority for bank account signature cards.

Lee Trousdale, Fin Com discussed $30,000 Pothole award with Board. Board unanimously approved tax rate reduction discussed by Mr. Trousdale that will be added to local receipts.

Phil Korman, Franklin Regional Council of Governments reviewed and discussed with Board their services available to all county towns that include resource development, fee for service programs,community health with regional agent, engineering, and co op purchasing available to all county towns.

Parking ban notice needs to be reposted in Greenfield Recorder stating 24 hour, no on-street.

Board awarded Town Common granite curbing project to R. S. Hurford for $7,493.

Board reviewed letter received from Emma Cappaluzzo regarding Frank Citino's request to ZBA for variance.

Board agreed with letter received from Mass Highways that eliminated the sidewalk on the Davis Road bridge over Lyons Brook.

Board signed Town Hall use request for Lion's Club services and a play on January 3,1999. Request will be coming for dance on Tuesday evenings.

Board discussed and reviewed restrictions for Michael Wing Class III license. Will submit to Mr. Wing for acceptance or refusal in full or part then discuss with him further. Hours, where to park vehicles, number of cars allowed, options for increase, time to comply, and noise were focused on. Town Counsel will be consulted.

Board discussed Route 2 Meeting and agreements to be come to with the other towns.

Board reviewed memo of special notice sent by Carolyn Manley, Town Treasurer to all department heads.

Board discussed advertising to hire new clerk.

Board discussed community service ideas for Lake Grove students.

Board reviewed proposed FY 2000 proposed FCSWMD budget prior to December 17, 1998 hearing.

Board reviewed letter from Fisheries and Wildlife regarding Wendell Wildlife Management Area on Bullard Pasture Road.

Marjorie Mc Ginnis discussed Personnel Policy revision with Board. 50% health insurance reimbursement after retirement with 10 years tenure.
Meeting recessed at 9:40 until Saturday December 12, 1998 at 8:00 for Michael Wing licensing discussion.

Wendell Selectboard Meeting December 22,1998 Minutes Members present were Ted Lewis,Christine Heard, and Katharine Bentley. Also present was Marjorie Mc Ginnis, Town Coordinator and Wanita Sears. Warrant and minutes were signed. Correspondence was reviewed. Meeting convened at 7:00.

Board signed Town Hall rental requests for Anne Diemand, Recreation Committee's Akido event.

Board reviewed Highway Department oil tank bid received from Fuel Vault for $11,280. Board did not sign pending finding a source of funds.

Board signed 1999 auto licenses and applications. Board discussed environmental considerations with Robin Pierce.

Board met with Emma Cappaluzzo regarding upcoming Zoning Board of Appeals Hearing for Citano variance. Ms. Cappaluzzo requested required time frame for hearing process and possibility of postponement until April 1999 or expedition. Board will see if postponement possible, see how soon hearing must be held and get back to her with hearing date.

Board signed request from Alexandra Tait for Town Hall use for circle folk dancing on Tuesday evenings through January.

Harry Williston, Road Commissioner and Danny Bacigalupo, Highway Superintendent informed Board they will request a waiver from Everett Ricketts, Fire Chief to extend Highway Department oil tank replacement until June 1999. Chapter 90 funds will fund this.

Discussion of Marjorie Mc Ginnis's increasing work for other Town Boards and implementing the new Selectboard Clerk to some of these with Finance Committee approval.

Discussion of Class II or Class IV licensing for Paul Rich.

Discussion of Michael Wing's condition changes request. Board signed according to their decisions

cont'd on pg 11

Selectboard Minutes

cont'd from pg 10

and will speak more with Mr. Wing at an upcoming meeting.

Board agreed to Lake Grove School's assisting with painting the Town Offices in the spring.

Board reviewed letter from DOR of tax rate setting and sending of bills.

Notice received that Veteran's Office Assistant hours have been reduced so insurance coverage is no longer an issue to Towns.

Letter received from Representative Kulik's office regarding looking into the AT&T tower in Town.

Letter received from Department of Housing and Community Development informing Wendell of being awarded their CDBG grant.

Letter reviewed letter from Lynne Davis thanking them for participating in the economic development portion of the CDGB Grant.

Discussion of Harold Wetherby rescinding escrow account for earth removal.

Board reviewed copies of letters received from Attorney Gates.

Board reviewed minutes from Route 2 Task Force Meeting. Next meeting January 7, 1999.

Board reviewed DOE letter regarding audit requirements.

Board reviewed Swift River School audit.

Invitation received to attend forum on Local Aid to be held on January 20,1999.

Board reviewed Annual Report from Franklin County Home Care.

Board discussed Town Common Project as nomination for Massachusetts Historical Commission's Preservation Award.

Board reviewed information received on aquatic plant life.

Christine Heard noted that Ed Heinz would like to be a member of the Town Hall Septic Committee. Meeting adjourned at 8:55.

Wendell Selectboard Meeting January 5, 1999 Members present were Ted Lewis, Christine Heard, and Katharine Bentley. Also present was Marjorie Mc Ginnis, Town Coordinator and Wanita Sears. Warrant and minutes were signed. Correspondence was reviewed. Meeting convened at 7:00.

Christine Heard signed Penny Delorey, Tax Collector's bond.

Board signed Warwick Town Hall construction contract.

Ted Lewis signed CDBG FY '98 contract.

Board reviewed CDBG spending percentages received from Franklin Regional Housing Authority. Ms. Mc Ginnis will send a letter of interest for FY'99 CDBG grant.

Board reviewed letter from Housing and Redevelopment Authority regarding FY '99 CDBG application ideas.

Invitation received from Athol Selectboard to January 21, 1999 Route 2 Task Force Meeting. Katharine Bentley will attend both January 7 and 21 meetings in replacement for Anne Zak.

Board will request more information from Dartmouth Selectboard regarding their request for support for East Timor liberation.

Board reviewed EPA numbers held by all auto license holders.

Discussion of Attorney Gates consulting on Paul Rich license of Class II or IV.

Nancy Riebschlaeger requested for concerned citizens the Board's assistance in calling a Public Hearing on the D&B asbestos dumping issue. Board set date for March 23, 1999 at 7:00 in the Town Hall. Board will sign letters of invitation to agencies, departments, and other parties. Board's ideas were requested for volunteers to go to Springfield to look at open DEP records.

Board reviewed bridge rating received from Mass Highways for Davis Road Bridge over Lyons Brook.

Board will look into source of industrial rolls of corrugated cardboard reported in Franklin County Solid Waste Management District's letter from the WRATS.

Board reviewed Wendell's recycling report card received from Executive Office Of Environmental Affairs.

Board approved Marjorie Mc Ginnis's vacation for March 15-19, 1999.

Michael Wing presented condition changes to Board's notification of conditions. Board will send license to Mr. Wing and condition changes from this meeting the Board agreed to and those not agreed to.
Meeting adjourned at 9:00

Wendell Selectboard Meeting January 19, 1999 Minutes Members present were Ted Lewis, Christine Heard, and Katharine Bentley. Also present was Marjorie Mc Ginnis, Town Coordinator and Wanita Sears. Warrant was signed. Correspondence was reviewed. Meeting convened at 7:00.

Board discussed Marianne Sundell's interest to become Selectboard Clerk.

Board appointed Dorthee and Rosalie Rosser to Council on Aging.

Ted Lewis signed Mass ReLeaf contract.

Board reviewed letter from FRHRA regarding FY '99 CDGB grants and signed letter of interest for in response.

Board designated Harry Williston, Danny Bacigalupo, Ted Lewis, Marjorie Mc Ginnis, and Bruce Hunter as review committee for Lockes Village Road bridge and culvert repair project. Meeting will be set up for January 21, 1999. 8 proposals have been received.

Board signed Town Hall rental request for Karen Copeland for a February 5, 1999 benefit concert.

Discussion of meeting with Dean Bennett, Nina Keller, and DEP regarding D&B asbestos issue. Public Hearing will be held February 23, 1999 at 7:00 in the Town Hall.

Ted Lewis explained criteria used for calling State of Emergency for January 17, 1999 storm.

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Maggie Houghton, Dog Officer and Jack Shea met with Board regarding further dog complaints in violation of previous order. Ms. Houghton has Haley, one of Mr. Shea's dogs that was running loose and reported in road by citizen. Board and Ms. Houghton ordered under leash law that Mr. Shea keep his dogs restrained at all times. He agreed to construct a kennel off his back door. Board will visit January 30, 1999 to see construction and Haley will be returned. Board decided a $10 per dog pickup fee will be assessed to owners for all future Dog Officer pickups.

Board reviewed further information from Attorney Gates regarding Paul Rich's license. Board signed Class II license. Special permit will be needed for repair extension.

Board reviewed letter from Paul Rich regarding his taxes. Ms. Mc Ginnis will refer him to Assessors.

Discussion of non compliance letter received by Town Clerk from Attorney General's office and corrective actions taken.

Board will attend January 22, 1999 meeting at 9:00 in Attorney Gates office.

Letter received from Athol Selectboard that the January 21, 1999 Route 2 Task Force meeting has been moved to A-O TV at 163 South Main Street.

Board agreed to Marjorie Mc Ginnis' suggestion that mailboxes be constructed in Town Offices for all departments without one.

Board reviewed letter from Erving School Union 28 regarding request for a Parent Center in Wendell.

Board reviewed three letters from Franklin County Council of Governments. Chapter 90 resolution to Joe Coll, thank you from Jim Toth for meeting with him in December, and an invitation to a forum on County Roads on February 4, 1999 that Ted Lewis and Marjorie Mc Ginnis will attend.

Board reviewed letter from DOR offering their assistance for Y2K computer compliance.

Board reviewed meeting notice and agenda from Franklin County Solid Waste Management District.

Discussion of Women's Fund grant application received.
Meeting recessed at 9:00 until Friday January 22, 1999 at 9:00 in Attorney Gates office

Minutes of Wendell Selectboard Meeting February 6, 1999 Present were Ted Lewis, Christine Heard and Katharine Bentley Selectboard Members; Margie McGinnis, Town Coordinator; Mez Davis, Recreation Commission; Nina Keller Hazardous Waste Coordinator; Marianne Sundell; Penny Delorey, Tax Collector; Maggie Houghton, Dog Officer.

Notice of Intent for Wendell Depot Road Culvert Project signed by Selectboard Chair, Ted Lewis.

The Board reviewed Locks Village Road culverts and bridge design services bids and awarded same to Dufresne, Henry.

The Board discussed problem with dogs on Locks Village Road Written complaints reviewed Dog Officer Maggie Houghton reviewed ongoing problems. Hearing set for Tuesday, February 9 1999 at 5:00 p.m. Abutters to be notified of hearing. Notice of hearing to be hand delivered by Wendell Police to owner of dogs Order to be drawn up for restraint of dogs. Annual posting of town's leash law will be drawn up also.

TOWN OF WENDELL

A discussion followed with Harry Williston and Danny Bacigalupo about speed limits on unposted roads. The first step is for town officials or employees to use rader gun to measure speed of motorists on unposted roads. Project set aside for better weather.

Harry reported a truck across Elm Street (only route to Orange since Wendell Depot bridge is closed) at 5:30 a.m. on February 2, 1999. Harry reported his call to 911 from cell phone went through, problem was taken care of.

Discussion followed of recent FRCOG meeting about old county roads and how they should be managed in the future.

Mez Davis reported on Recreation Commission activities. A Community Arts Club, an after school art program open to people ages 5-100 will take place in the Senior Center on Wednesdays. A maximum of 20 children with two adult chaperons was set. A small fee will be charged to defray heating and electricity costs. Selectboard agreed Community Arts Club could begin meetings on Wednesday, February 17, 1999, if new furnaces are installed in Town Office Building by then.

Recreation Commission will meet every Thursday at the Senior Center.

Recreation Commission is seeking donations of money for food. Margid McGinnis will contact Ed Chase to discuss possibility of using Community Policing Grant money.

The Golden Agers rules for use of Senior Center were reviewed:

no food to be left behind in Senior Center

no equipment or supplies to be left behind without prior agreement with Golden Agers;

sufficient adults must be preset to supervise children

Mez brought up questions of liability on town property. Town buildings are covered by liability insurance.

Margie McGinnis will check on liability during field trips.

Recreation Commission can sponsor activities at the Town Hall. but person runnig the activity must seek Selectboard permission to use Town Hall. The fee will be discussed and decided each time

Marianne Sundell was interviewed and hired for the position of Selectboard Clerk. Starting date will be decided among Marianne Sundell, Margie McGinnis and current clerk, Wanita Sears.

Nina Keller, Hazardous Waste Coordinator, reported that a meeting is scheduled for Tuesday February 23, 1999 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall between Town Committees, D & B Landfill owners and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection to clarify closure of the Landfill in light of the recent revelation about asbestos dumping. Interested citizens are invited Nina has drafted a letter to D & B, DEP and the State Attorney General proposing certain changes to the current agreement about closure. The three requests are 1) that perpetual fund be established instead of the current 30 year fund; 2) that the engineer who certifies the closure at the end of 30 years be hired by DEP but be accountable to the Town of Wendell; and 3) Wendell be part of Attorney General's suit against the Massachusetts Highway Commissiono The agenda for the meeting was agreed upon. Nina will organize the meeting, develop questions, and work with the meeting's moderator, Jonathan VonRanson. The Selectboard agreed that Nina could store her files about D & B in the Selectboard office when she is ready to hand them over.

Penny Delorey, Tax Collector, met with the Board to review instructions from Town Counsel about issuing Municipal Lien Certificates. Penny will ask Town Auditor Tom Scanlon for written notification of information for MLCs. Penny plans to include a notice with 1999 excise tax bill about clearing previous unpaid excise bills. Penny proposed and the Selectboard agreed that fees collected on liens be paid to her assisstant, Claire McGinnis, who has done the work on liens.

The Board reviewed letter from Town Counsel about eh January 22nd meeting. The date of the next meeting was questioned

The Board discussed the problems with the furnaces in the Town Offices building. Ted has talked to the Finance Committee about the expecte expense. The cost of new furnaces will be paid from the Town Office repair account. Margie and Ted were authorized by the Selectboard to make the final decision about the new furnaces once bids were in, in order to facilitate the installation of new furnaces.

The Board discussed who might serve as representative to the FCSWMD and as Recycling Coordinator. Margie will talk to Danny Bacigalupo to see if either Charles Smith and Andy Hamilton is interested in either position.

The Board reviewed the letter received from the Attorney General's Office regarding the cell tower bylaw.

The Board reviewed an anonymous letter received regarding two police officers The information was too scanty for the Board to take any action.

The Board approved a Town Hall rental application from Laura Doughty.

The Board approved a Town Hall rental application from Deva Skydancer

The Board reviewed a letter from the Franklin Hampshire County group insturance trust, then advised Carolyn Manley, Treasurer, that it supports representation for FRCOG, but is unwilling to provide mone for legal pursuit of representation.

The Board discussed representation to the Route 2 Selectboards Group. Katharine agreed to continue representing the Selectboard Margie will also write a letter to the Selectboard Group saying that Wendell will send only one representative. Margie will ask Anne Zak for letter of resignation from the Route 2 Task Force.

The Board reviewed a letter received by the Highway Department, Recreation Committee and Police Department about a new playground committee for Swift River School.

The Board reviewed a letter from the FRCOG regarding a regional policy plan. The Board will request a copy of the plan be sent to it and will then notify other Town boards.

A pole hearing was set for March 2, 1999.

The Board reviewed information about an application for a women and girls activity grant. Margie has sent a preapplication request.

The Board reviewed letters received from the Office of the Attorney General.

The Board reviewed legislative bulletins.

The Board agreed to pay the $25 fee to join the Franklin County Community Development Corp.

The Board reviewed the Even Start Program information.

The Board reviewed the following invitations:

Orange Town Administrator Reception on February 10, 1999 at 7:00 p.m. Margie McGinnis will attend

FRCOG Forum on Education Reform on Thursday, February 25, 1999 at 7:00 p.m.

The Howdy Awards Reception

The Selectboard received an appraisal form for Margie McGinnis. The Board members will complete the form and return it to Margie. Margie will ask Anne Zak, former Board member, to complete a form as well. A discussion of Margie's performance will be a future agenda item.

Christine Heard
Selectboard

MARJORIE J. (POWLING) LEWIS

Marjorie Lewis died on March 3, 1999 at home after an illness. She was born in Wendell on August 25, 1928. Marjorie lived in Wendell most of her life. She was the wife of Ted Lewis for 48 years, mother of Dennis T., Debera L., and Marjorie J. Famiglietti. She leaves two brothers, Merle and Charles Powling and four sisters, Grace Bezio, Genevieve Lewis, Doris Sandman and Lena Southworth, four grandchildren; a great-grandchild and many nieces and nephews. Marjorie was known by many as Marge, Sal, Girlie or Mrs. Lewis. To have so many nicknames says something about the love and the way she had of making you feel comfortable.

Marjorie was a ballot clerk in town for many years. She was a longtime member of the Wendell Ladies Aide and the Wendell Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary.

Marge enjoyed the outdoors, watching the deer in her backyard, the birds all around, taking walks. growing flowers, playing with her dog, knitting , sewing and helping Ted around the house with yet another project. She loved to spend time with her family - immediate and extended. Things I heard were - "She was a sweetheart." "I didn't consider her a sister-in-law, she was a sister to me." "She was always there - anything I needed - she was there."

Women like Girlie - I don't think they come around every day - she had a quiet, strong, sensible way about her. She was willing to be a friend and I know she will be missed forever.

Anne Diemand

THANK YOU

The family of Marjorie Lewis would like to thank their family, the citizens of Wendell, the Wendell Police Department, the Visiting Nurses Association, Hospice, Home Care, Witty's Funereal Home, the Diemand family and so many others for the cards, visits, phone calls, food, support and caring during her illness and passing.

We will remember you all with deep affection.

Ted Lewis and family